Reading

Program Title

Early Reading First

CFDA # (or ED #)

84.359A; 84.359B

Administering Office

Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE)

Who May Apply (by category)

Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs), Local Education Agencies (LEAs), Nonprofit Organizations, Other Organizations and/or Agencies, State Education Agencies (SEAs)

Who May Apply (specifically)

LEAs eligible for a Reading First subgrant and public or private organizations or agencies located in a community served by an eligible LEA may apply.

Current Competitions

FY 2006 application deadlines: Pre-application: Feb.21, 2006; full application (for invited applicants only): May 8, 2006.

Note: The pre-application phase of this competition is reopened to March 9, 2006, for all applicants, and for an additional 30 days from the date of publication of the *Federal Register* notice, reopening the competition for eligible applicants inadvertently omitted from the eligibility list.

Type of Assistance (by category)

Discretionary/Competitive Grants

Appropriations

Fiscal Year 2004	$94,439,500
Fiscal Year 2005	$104,160,000
Fiscal Year 2006	$103,118,000

Fiscal Year 2006 Awards Information

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Number of New Awards Anticipated: 23–68
Average New Award: $3,000,000
Range of New Awards: $1,500,000–$4,500,000
Note: Projects are funded for three years; grantees receive funds for the entire period in the first year.

Legislative Citation

Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended, Title I, Part B, Subpart 2.

Program Regulations

EDGAR; 34 *CFR* 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 84, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99

Program Description

The program supports the development of early childhood centers of excellence that focus on all areas of development, especially on the early language, cognitive, and pre-reading skills that prepare children for continued school success and that serve primarily children from low-income families.

Types of Projects

Grants are designed to help early childhood centers improve their programs, by creating centers of excellence that provide preschool-age children with language and cognitive skills, and an early reading foundation. Funds must be used to:

- Enhance children's language, cognitive, and early reading skills through professional development for teachers;

- Provide early language and reading development and instructional materials as developed from scientifically based reading research;

- Provide preschool-age children with cognitive learning opportunities in high quality language and literature-rich environments;

- Use screening assessments to effectively identify preschool children who may be at risk for reading failure; and

- Improve existing early childhood programs by integrating scientifically based reading research into all aspects of the program (including instructional materials, teaching strategies, curricula, parent engagement, and professional development).

Education Level (by category)

Pre-K, Early Childhood

Subject Index

Disadvantaged, Early Childhood Education, Early Reading, Prereading Experience, Reading

Contact Information

Name: Rebecca Haynes
E-mail Address: rebecca.haynes@ed.gov
Mailing Address: U.S. Department of Education, OESE
Early Reading First Program
400 Maryland Ave. S.W., Rm. 3C138, FB-6
Washington, DC 20202-6100
Telephone: (202) 260-0968
Toll-Free Telephone: (800) 872-5327 or (800) USA-LEARN
Fax: (202) 260-7764

Name: Jill Stewart
E-mail Address: jill.stewart@ed.gov
Mailing Address: U.S. Department of Education, OESE
Early Reading First Program
400 Maryland Ave., S.W., Rm. 3C136, FB-6
Washington, DC 20202-6100
Telephone: (202) 260-2533
Toll-Free Telephone: (800) 872-5327 or (800) USA-LEARN
Fax: (202) 260-7764

Links to Related Web Sites

http://www.ed.gov/programs/earlyreading/index.html